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(12) **United States Patent**
Byers et al.(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,199,918 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 1, 2015**(54) **SMALL MOLECULE INHIBITORS OF AGBL2**(75) Inventors: **Stephen W. Byers**, Takoma Park, MD (US); **Sivanesan Dakshanamurthy**, Herndon, VA (US); **Ziad Sahab**, Fairfax, VA (US)(73) Assignee: **Georgetown University**, Washington, DC (US)

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C07K 5/065 (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.**CPC **C07C 235/84** (2013.01); **A61K 31/196** (2013.01); **A61K 31/341** (2013.01); **A61K 31/357** (2013.01); **A61K 31/4155** (2013.01); **A61K 31/4178** (2013.01); **A61K 31/4406** (2013.01); **A61K 31/4436** (2013.01); **A61K 38/05** (2013.01); **A61K 45/06** (2013.01); **C07C****233/65** (2013.01); **C07C 233/75** (2013.01); **C07C 237/12** (2013.01); **C07D 213/56** (2013.01); **C07D 233/90** (2013.01); **C07D 307/66** (2013.01); **C07D 307/68** (2013.01); **C07D 317/46** (2013.01); **C07D 403/04** (2013.01); **C07D 409/14** (2013.01); **C07D 417/12** (2013.01); **C07K 5/06078** (2013.01)(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Small molecule inhibitors of AGBL2 are provided, as well as methods of using the inhibitors to treat or prevent cancer and neurologic disorders.

6 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

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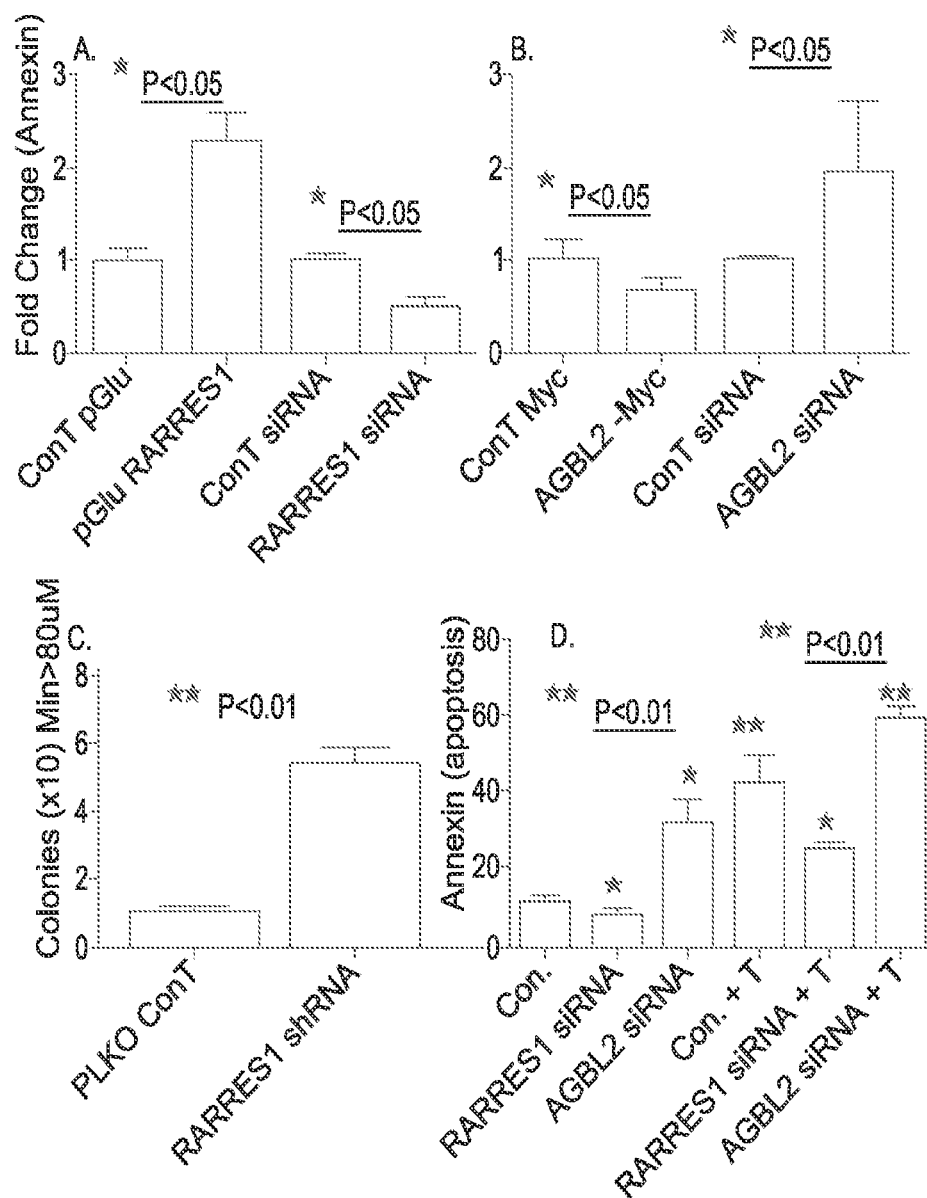


FIG. 1

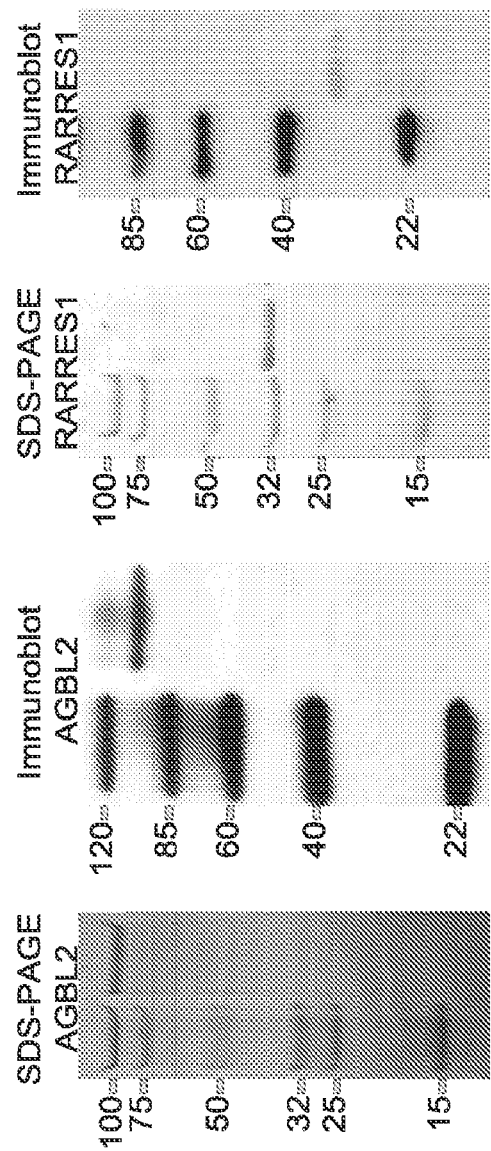
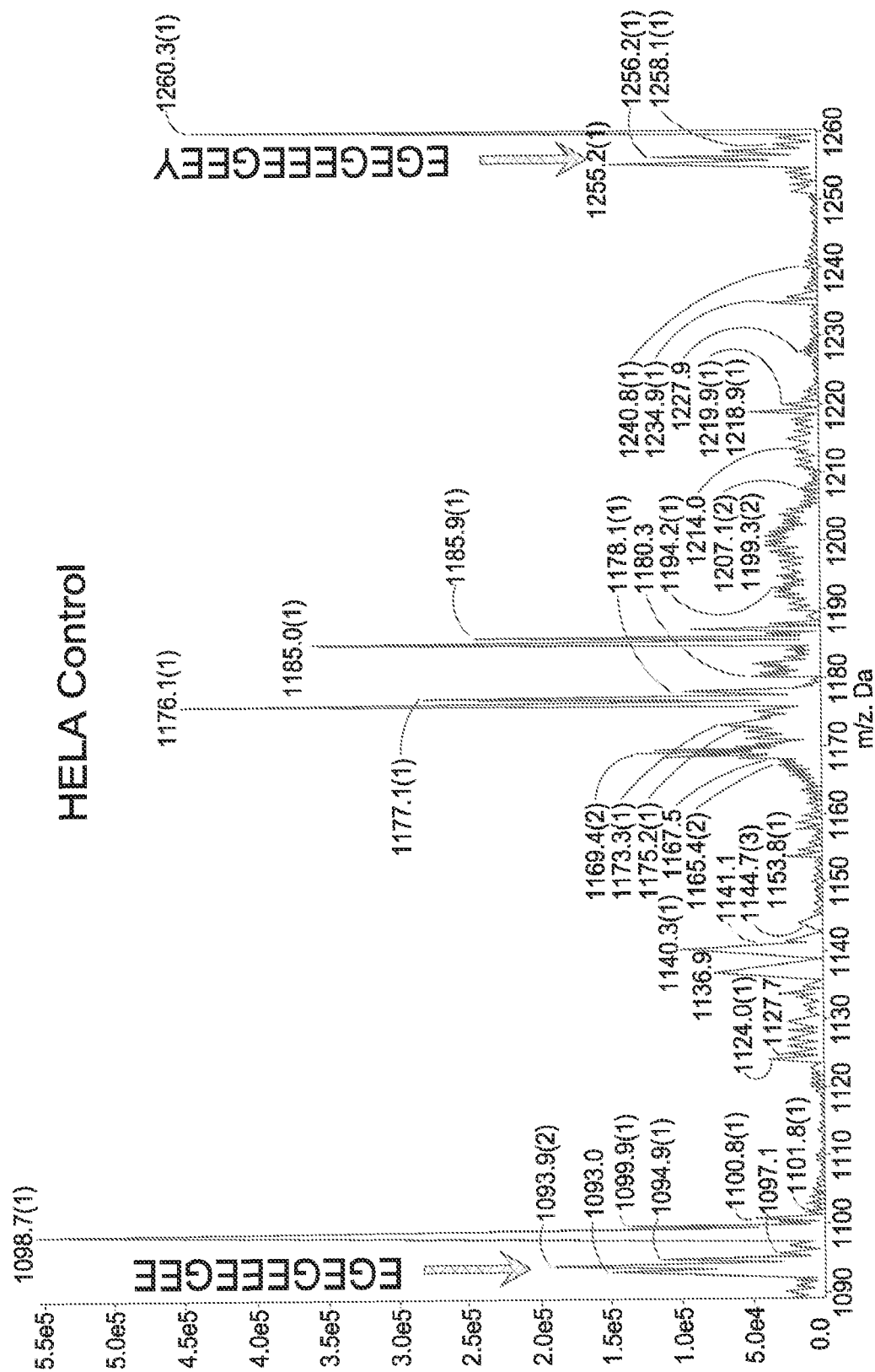
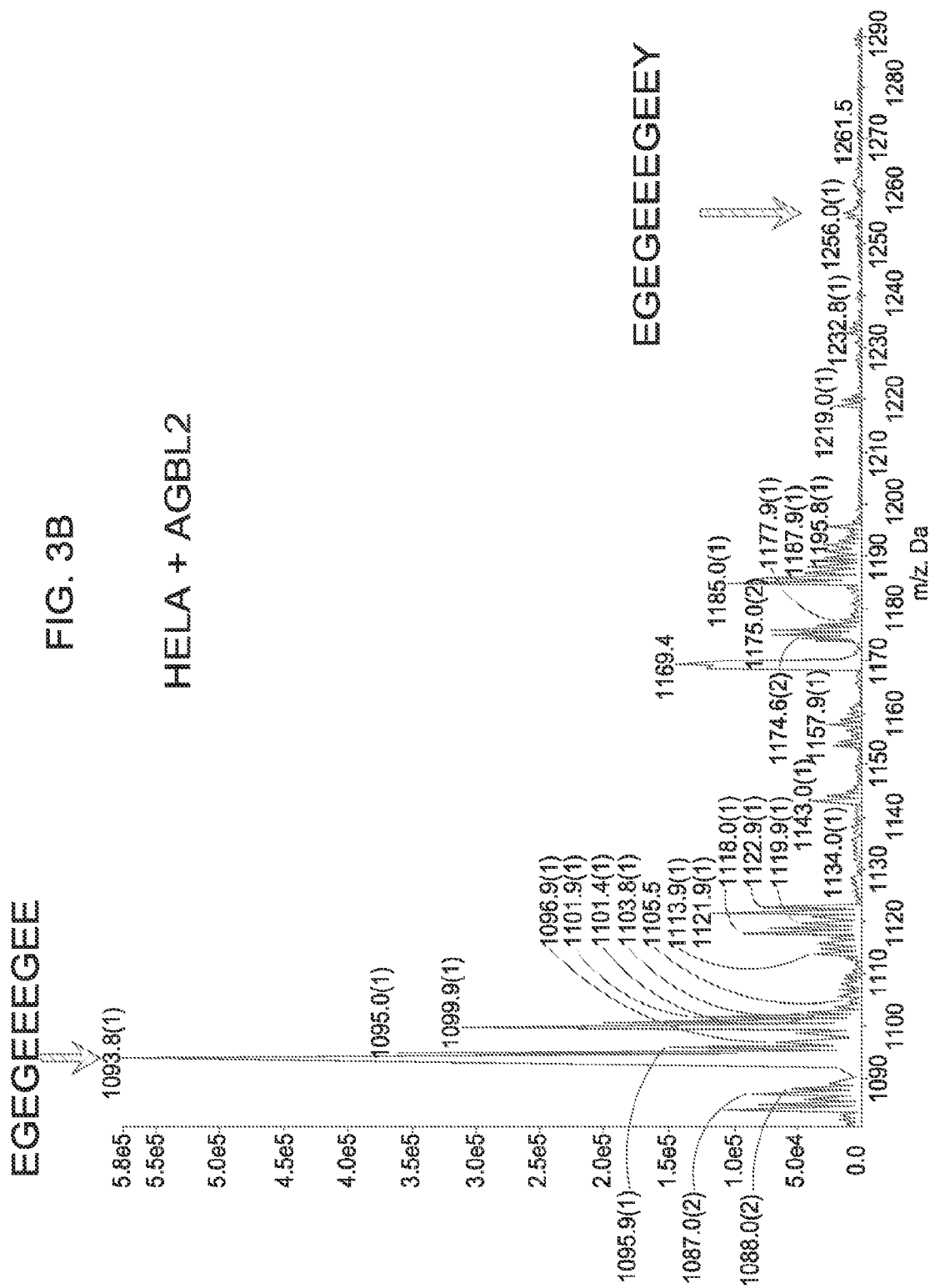


FIG. 2

FIG. 3A

HELA Control





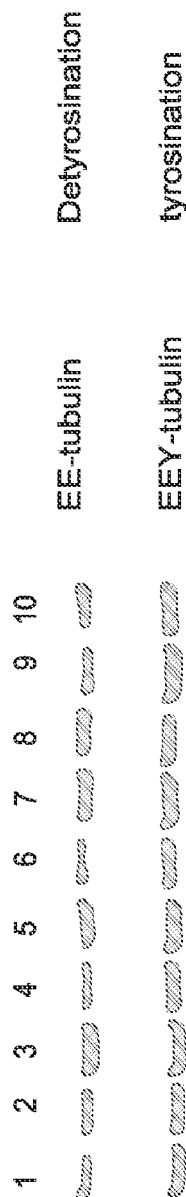


FIG. 4

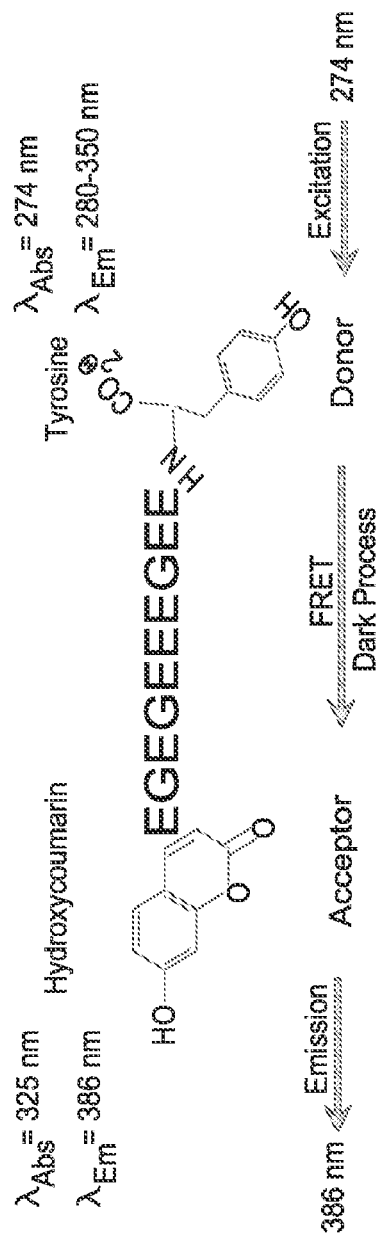
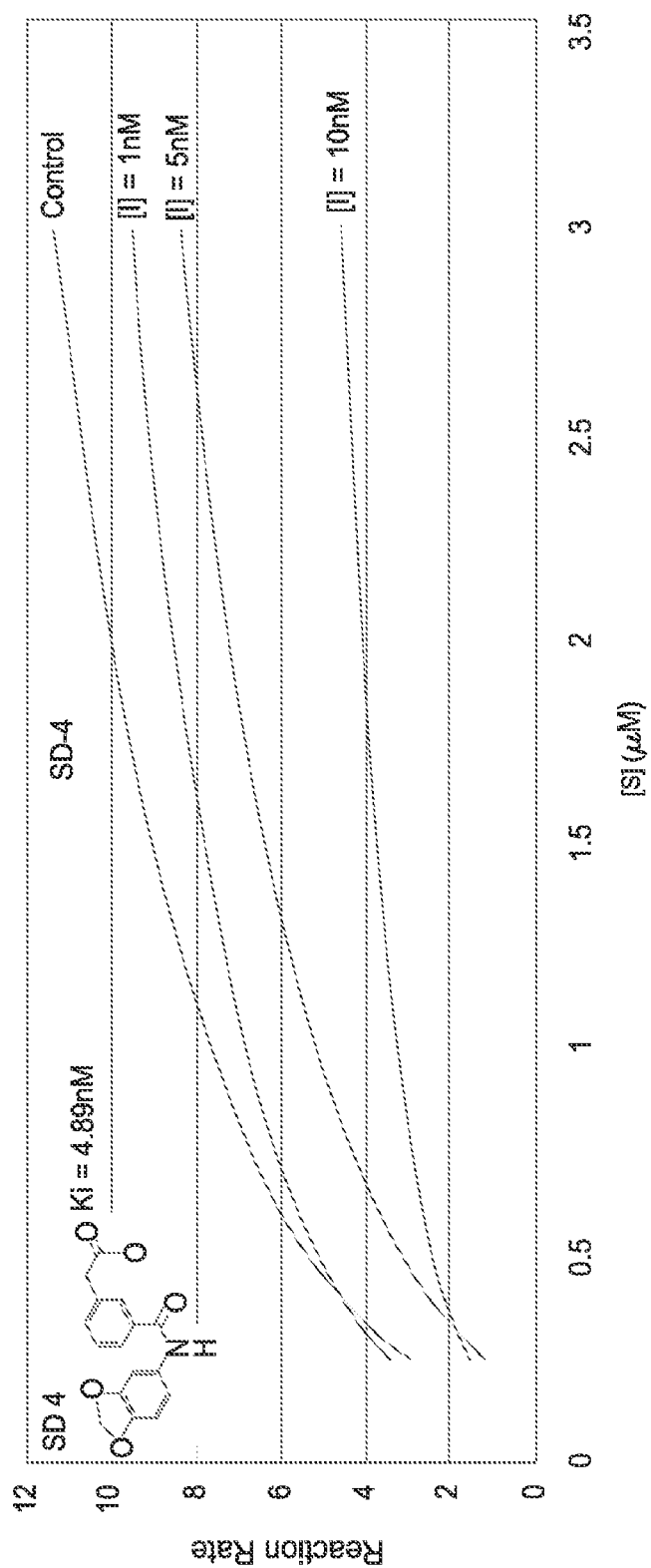


FIG. 5



1

SMALL MOLECULE INHIBITORS OF AGBL2

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIORITY APPLICATION

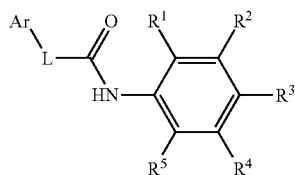
This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/443,069, filed Feb. 15, 2011, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

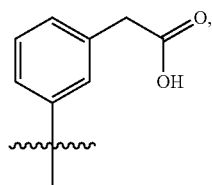
The removal of the C-terminal tyrosine of α -tubulin to form detyrosinated α -tubulin is involved in several aspects of microtubule function, including kinesin interactions, spindle dynamics, mitosis, and neuronal specification. Microtubules containing large amounts of detyrosinated α -tubulin are more stable and resistant to depolymerization by destabilizing agents. Further, detyrosinated α -tubulin has been shown to be elevated in aggressive breast and prostate cancers.

SUMMARY

Provided herein are small molecule inhibitors of ATP/GTP binding protein like 2 (AGBL2) and their use in methods for treating or preventing cancer and neurologic disorders. A class of compounds described herein includes compounds of the following structure:



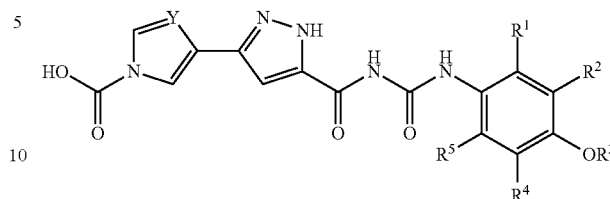
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof. In these compounds, Ar is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; L is absent or $-(CHR^6)-$, wherein R^6 is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; and R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl. Optionally, if L is absent and Ar is



then R^2 and R^3 are not combined to form 1,3-dioxolane.

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A class of compounds described herein includes compounds of the following structure:

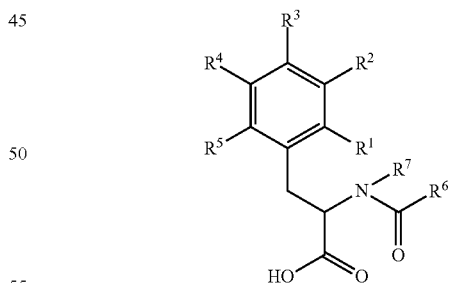


and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof. In these compounds, R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; R^3 is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl; and Y is CH or N.

A class of compounds described herein includes compounds of the following structure:



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof. In these compounds, R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; and Ar is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl. A class of compounds described herein includes compounds of the following structure:

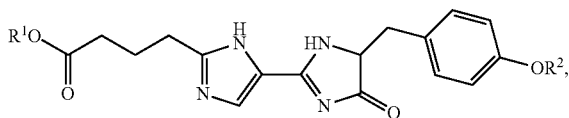


and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof. In these compounds, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; R^6 is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or

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unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; and R^7 is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl.

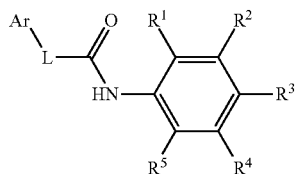
A class of compounds described herein includes compounds of the following structure:



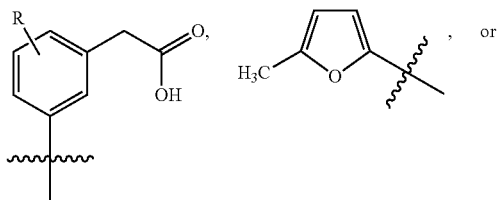
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof. In these compounds, R^1 is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and R^2 is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl.

Also provided herein are compositions including a compound as described above and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Further provided herein are methods of preventing or treating cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject. A method for treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject includes administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound of the following formula:

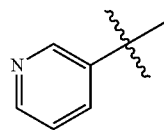


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In this method, Ar is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; L is absent or $-(CH_2R^6)-$, wherein R^6 is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; and R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl. Optionally, R^2 and R^3 combine to form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl. Optionally, Ar is selected from the group consisting of:



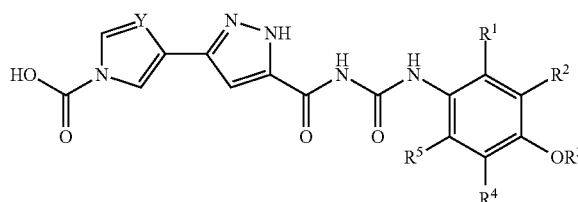
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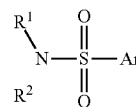
wherein R is trifluoromethyl, chloro, fluoro, methoxy, amino, or nitro.

A method of treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject includes administering to the subject an effective amount of one or more compounds of the following structure:



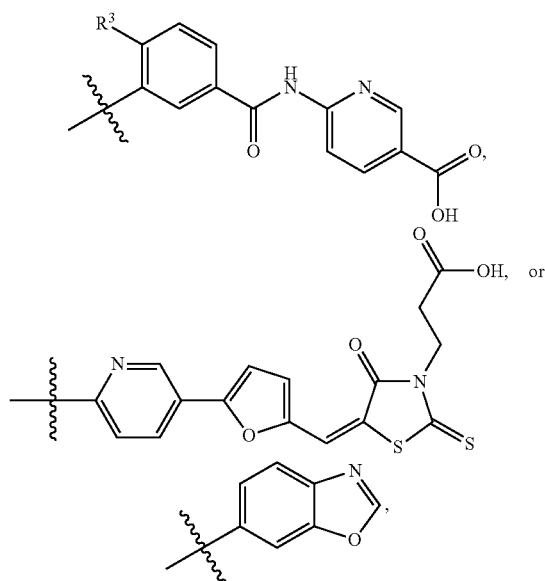
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In this method, R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; R^3 is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl; and Y is CH or N.

A method of treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject includes administering to the subject an effective amount of one or more compounds of the following structure:



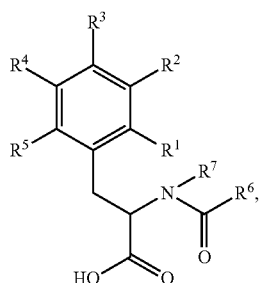
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In this method, R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; and Ar is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl. Optionally, R^1 and R^2 combine to form a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl. Optionally, Ar is selected from the group consisting of:

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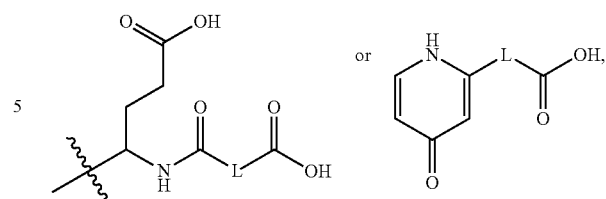
wherein R^3 is hydrogen or a halogen.

A method of treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject includes administering to the subject an effective amount of one or more compounds of the following structure:



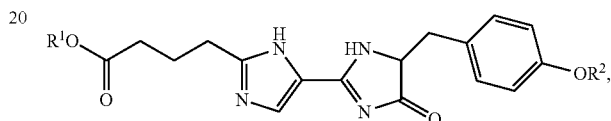
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In this method, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; R^6 is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; and R^7 is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl. Optionally, R^6 is selected from the group consisting of

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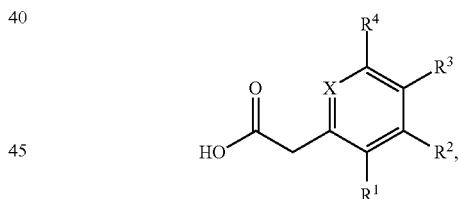
wherein L is selected from substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl.

A method of treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject includes administering to the subject an effective amount of one or more compounds of the following structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In this method, R^1 is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and R^2 is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

A method of treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject includes administering to the subject an effective amount of one or more compounds of the following structure:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In this method, R^1 is methyl or substituted thio; R^2 , R^3 , and R^4 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, or trifluoromethyl; and X is N or CH.

Optionally, the methods of treating or preventing cancer in a subject further include administering a second therapeutic agent (e.g., a chemotherapeutic agent) to the subject. Further, the methods of treating or preventing a neurologic disorder in a subject optionally include administering a second therapeutic agent, such as an anti-depressant or an anxiolytic, to the subject.

Also provided herein are the compounds as described above.

The details of one or more embodiments are set forth in the drawings and the description below. Other features, objects, and advantages will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from the claims.

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 contains graphs showing the exogenous expression (pGlu-RARRES1; AGBL2) and knock-down (si/sh) of RARRES1 and AGBL2 through annexin staining (Panels A and B), soft agar colony formation (Panel C), and taxol response (Panel D).

FIG. 2 shows pictures of SDS-PAGE and Immunoblots depicting the presence of RARRES1 (MW~31 kDa) and AGBL2 (MW~105 kDa).

FIGS. 3A and 3B show mass spectra showing the dephosphorylated (1093.3 Da) and tyrosinated (1256.4 Da) tubulin CTT in control (FIG. 3A) and AGBL2 treated lysates (FIG. 3B). The dephosphorylated to tyrosinated ratio of tubulin increased from 1.20 to 41.4 following AGBL2 treatment.

FIG. 4 shows a Western Blot depicting tyrosinated and dephosphorylated α -tubulin in HEK 293 cells and HEK 293 cells expressing TIG1. Row 1 represents the control (EV), row 2 represents overexpressed TIG1, row 3 represents EV and compound Sd-1, row 4 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-1, row 5 represents EV and compound Sd-2, row 6 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-2, row 7 represents EV and compound Sd-3, row 8 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-3, row 9 represents EV and compound Sd-4, and row 10 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-4.

FIG. 5 shows a scheme of a high-throughput enzyme assay.

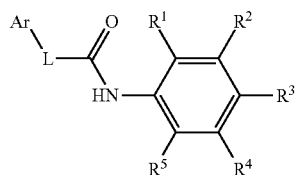
FIG. 6 is a graph demonstrating the inhibition of AGBL2 activity (1 nM) by compound Sd-4 at varying substrate concentrations.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Described herein are compounds for use as ATP/GTP binding protein like 2 (AGBL2) inhibitors and methods for treating and preventing AGBL2 related disorders, including cancer and neurologic disorders, in a subject. The methods of preventing or treating cancer or a neurologic disorder described herein include administering to the subject an AGBL2 inhibitor. Such inhibitors are administered in an effective amount to prevent or treat one or more symptoms of cancer or neurologic disorders.

I. Compounds

A class of AGBL2 inhibitors useful in the methods described herein includes compounds represented by Formula I:

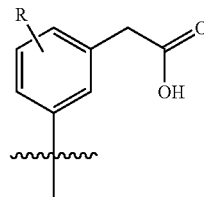


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

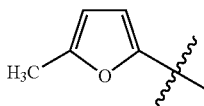
In Formula I, Ar is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl. Optionally, Ar is one of Structure I-A, Structure I-B, or Structure I-C:

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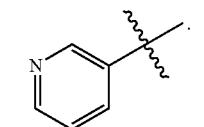
Structure I-A



Structure I-B



Structure I-C



In Structure I-A, R can be, for example, hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, chloro, fluoro, methoxy, amino, or nitro. The R group can be located at any position on the ring.

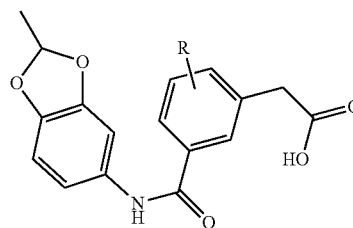
Also in Formula I, L is absent or $-(CHR^6)-$, wherein R^6 is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl (e.g., C_{1-4} alkyl), substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl (e.g., C_{2-4} alkenyl), substituted or unsubstituted alkynyl (e.g., C_{2-4} alkynyl), substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl.

Additionally in Formula I, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , and R^5 are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl.

In Formula I, R^2 and R^3 are optionally combined to form a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkenyl, or substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkynyl.

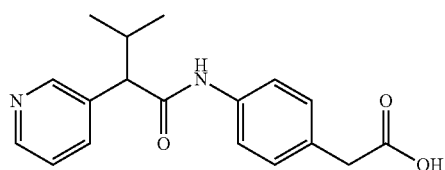
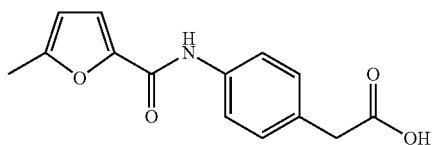
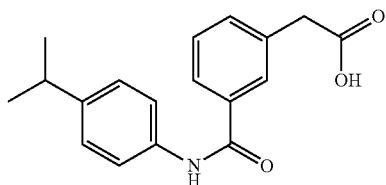
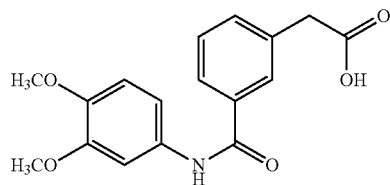
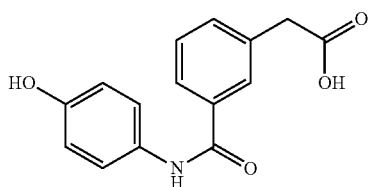
Examples of Formula I include the following compounds:

Sd-4-1



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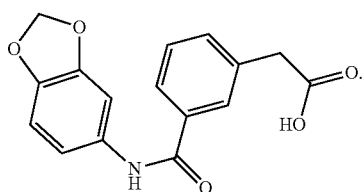
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In Compound Sd-4-1, R can be, for example, hydrogen, trifluoromethyl, halogen (e.g., chloro or fluoro), alkoxy (e.g., methoxy), amino, or nitro. The R group can be located at any position on the ring.

In some examples of Formula I, the compound is not Sd-4-5.

In some examples of Formula I, if L is absent and Ar is Structure I-A, wherein R is hydrogen, then R² and R³ are not combined to form 1,3-dioxolane. In other words, in some examples, the compound of Formula I is not



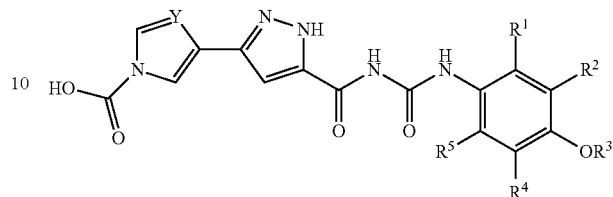
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A class of AGBL2 inhibitors useful in the methods described herein includes compounds represented by Formula II:

Sd-4-2

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II



Sd-4-3

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

In Formula II, R¹, R², R⁴, and R⁵ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl.

Also in Formula II, R³ is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl.

Additionally in Formula II, Y is CH or N.

Examples of Formula II include the following compounds

Sd-4-4

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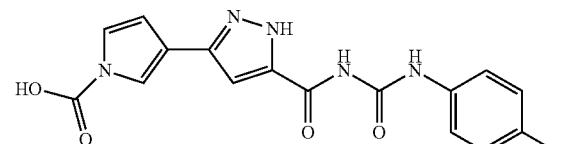
Sd-4-5

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Sd-5-1

Sd-4-6

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Sd-5-2

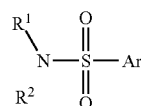
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A class of AGBL2 inhibitors useful in the methods described herein includes compounds represented by Formula III:

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III



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Sd-4

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

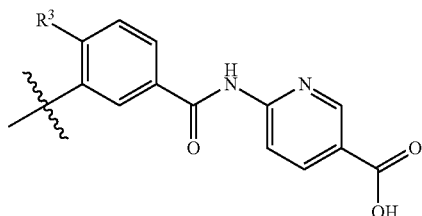
In Formula III, R¹ and R² are each independently selected from hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl.

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Also in Formula III, Ar is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl. Optionally, Ar is one of Structure III-A, Structure III-B, or Structure III-C

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Structure III-A



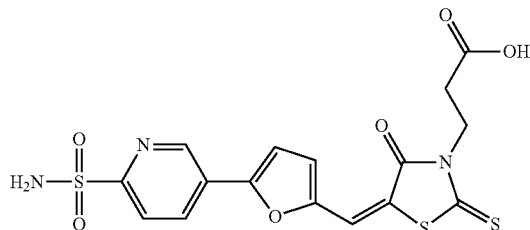
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Sd-5-5

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In some examples of Formula III, the compound is not Sd-5-5.

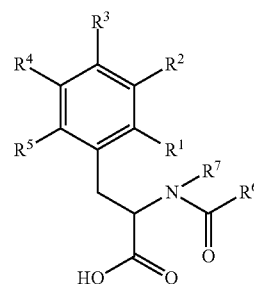
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A class of AGBL2 inhibitors useful in the methods described herein includes compounds represented by Formula IV:

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IV

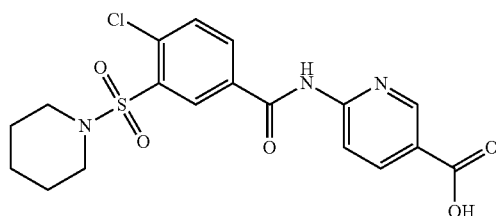
In Structure III-A, R³ can be, for example, hydrogen or halogen (e.g., Cl, F, or Br).

In Formula III, R¹ and R² are optionally combined to form a substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkenyl, or substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkynyl.

Examples of Formula III include the following compounds:

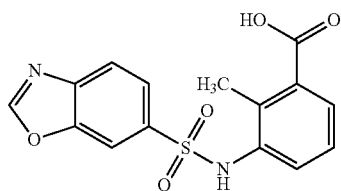
Sd-5-3

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Sd-5-4

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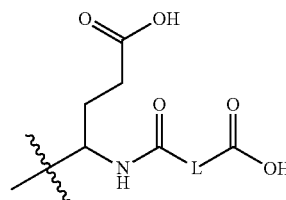
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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

In Formula IV, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, and R⁵ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl.

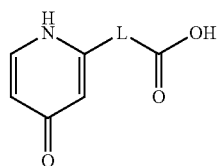
Also in Formula IV, R⁶ is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl. Optionally, R⁶ is one of Structure IV-A or Structure IV-B:

Structure IV-A



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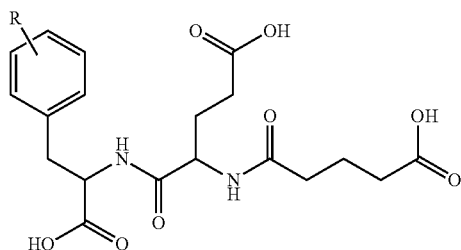


Structure IV-B

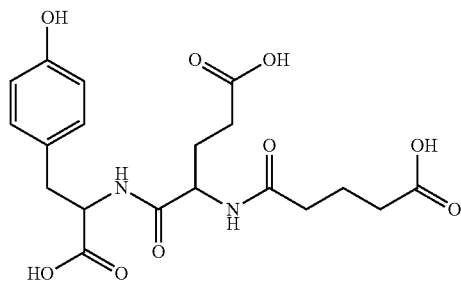
In Structures IV-A and IV-B, L is selected from substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl.

Additionally, in Formula IV, R⁷ is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl.

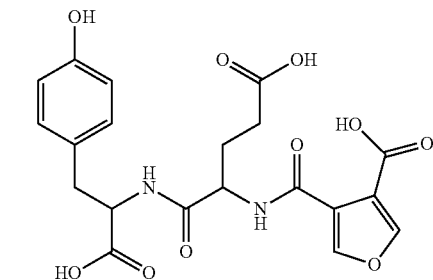
Examples of Formula IV include the following compounds:



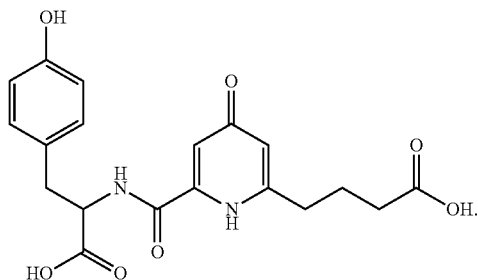
Sd-6-1



Sd-6-2



Sd-6-3

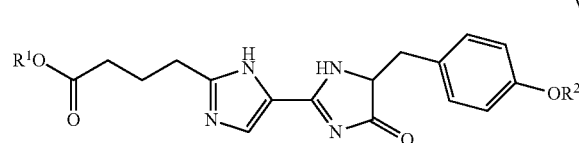


Sd-6-4

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In Compound Sd-6-1, R can be, for example, trifluoromethyl or halogen (e.g., chloro or fluoro). The R group can be located at any position on the ring.

A class of AGBL2 inhibitors useful in the methods described herein includes compounds represented by Formula V:



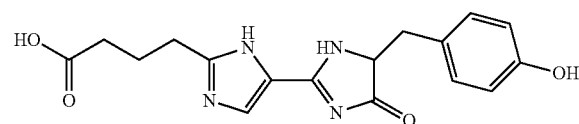
V

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

In Formula V, R¹ is hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl.

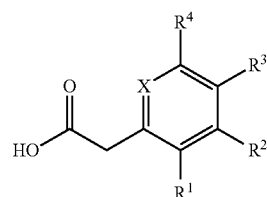
Also in Formula V, R² is hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl.

A particular example of Formula V includes the following compound:



Sd-6-5

A class of AGBL2 inhibitors useful in the methods described herein includes compounds represented by Formula VI:



VI

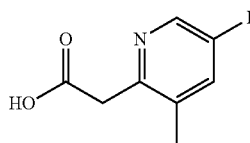
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

In Formula VI, R¹ is methyl or substituted thio.

Also in Formula VI, R², R³, and R⁴ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, or trifluoromethyl.

Additionally in Formula VI, X is N or CH.

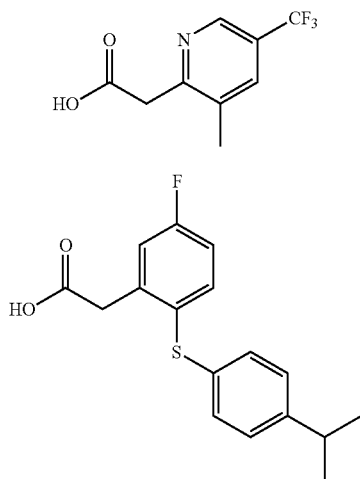
Examples of Formula VI include the following compounds:



Sd-1

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-continued



As used herein, the terms alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl include straight- and branched-chain monovalent substituents. Examples include methyl, ethyl, isobutyl, 3-butynyl, and the like. Ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl, and C₂-C₂₀ alkynyl. Additional ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₁-C₁₂ alkyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkenyl, C₂-C₁₂ alkynyl, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₂-C₄ alkenyl, and C₂-C₄ alkynyl.

Heteroalkyl, heteroalkenyl, and heteroalkynyl are defined similarly as alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl, but can contain O, S, or N heteroatoms or combinations thereof within the backbone. Ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₁-C₂₀ heteroalkyl, C₂-C₂₀ heteroalkenyl, and C₂-C₂₀ heteroalkynyl. Additional ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₁-C₁₂ heteroalkyl, C₂-C₁₂ heteroalkenyl, C₂-C₁₂ heteroalkynyl, C₁-C₆ heteroalkyl, C₂-C₆ heteroalkenyl, C₂-C₆ heteroalkynyl, C₁-C₄ heteroalkyl, C₂-C₄ heteroalkenyl, and C₂-C₄ heteroalkynyl.

The terms cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, and cycloalkynyl include cyclic alkyl groups having a single cyclic ring or multiple condensed rings. Examples include cyclohexyl, cyclopentylethyl, and adamantanyl. Ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₃-C₂₀ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₂₀ cycloalkenyl, and C₃-C₂₀ cycloalkynyl. Additional ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₅-C₁₂ cycloalkyl, C₅-C₁₂ cycloalkenyl, C₅-C₁₂ cycloalkynyl, C₅-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₅-C₆ cycloalkenyl, and C₅-C₆ cycloalkynyl.

The terms heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, and heterocycloalkynyl are defined similarly as cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, and cycloalkynyl, but can contain O, S, or N heteroatoms or combinations thereof within the cyclic backbone. Ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₃-C₁₀ heterocycloalkyl, C₃-C₂₀ heterocycloalkenyl, and C₃-C₂₀ heterocycloalkynyl. Additional ranges of these groups useful with the compounds and methods described herein include C₅-C₁₂ heterocycloalkyl, C₅-C₁₂ heterocycloalkenyl, C₅-C₁₂ heterocycloalkynyl, C₅-C₆ heterocycloalkyl, C₅-C₆ heterocycloalkenyl, and C₅-C₆ heterocycloalkynyl.

Aryl molecules include, for example, cyclic hydrocarbons that incorporate one or more planar sets of, typically, six

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carbon atoms that are connected by delocalized electrons numbering the same as if they consisted of alternating single and double covalent bonds. An example of an aryl molecule is benzene. Heteroaryl molecules include substitutions along their main cyclic chain of atoms such as O, N, or S. When heteroatoms are introduced, a set of five atoms, e.g., four carbon and a heteroatom, can create an aromatic system. Examples of heteroaryl molecules include furan, pyrrole, thiophene, imadazole, oxazole, pyridine, and pyrazine. Aryl and heteroaryl molecules can also include additional fused rings, for example, benzofuran, indole, benzothiophene, naphthalene, anthracene, and quinoline.

The alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroalkyl, heteroalkenyl, heteroalkynyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkynyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, or heterocycloalkynyl molecules used herein can be substituted or unsubstituted. As used herein, the term substituted includes the addition of an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroalkyl, heteroalkenyl, heteroalkynyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkynyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, or heterocycloalkynyl group to a position attached to the main chain of the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroalkyl, heteroalkenyl, heteroalkynyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkynyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, or heterocycloalkynyl, e.g., the replacement of a hydrogen by one of these molecules. Examples of substitution groups include, but are not limited to, hydroxyl, halogen (e.g., F, Br, Cl, or I), and carboxyl groups. Conversely, as used herein, the term unsubstituted indicates the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroalkyl, heteroalkenyl, heteroalkynyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkynyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, or heterocycloalkynyl has a full complement of hydrogens, i.e., commensurate with its saturation level, with no substitutions, e.g., linear decane (—(CH₂)₉—CH₃).

II. Pharmaceutical Formulations

The compounds described herein or derivatives thereof can be provided in a pharmaceutical composition. Depending on the intended mode of administration, the pharmaceutical composition can be in the form of solid, semi-solid or liquid dosage forms, such as, for example, tablets, suppositories, pills, capsules, powders, liquids, or suspensions, preferably in unit dosage form suitable for single administration of a precise dosage. The compositions will include a therapeutically effective amount of the compound described herein or derivatives thereof in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, in addition, may include other medicinal agents, pharmaceutical agents, carriers, or diluents. By pharmaceutically acceptable is meant a material that is not biologically or otherwise undesirable, which can be administered to an individual along with the selected compound without causing unacceptable biological effects or interacting in a deleterious manner with the other components of the pharmaceutical composition in which it is contained.

As used herein, the term carrier encompasses any excipient, diluent, filler, salt, buffer, stabilizer, solubilizer, lipid, stabilizer, or other material well known in the art for use in pharmaceutical formulations. The choice of a carrier for use in a composition will depend upon the intended route of administration for the composition. The preparation of pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and formulations containing these materials is described in, e.g., Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, 21st Edition, ed. University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia Pa., 2005. Examples of physiologically acceptable carriers include buffers, such as phosphate buffers, citrate buffer, and buffers with other organic acids; antioxidants including

ascorbic acid; low molecular weight (less than about 10 residues) polypeptides; proteins, such as serum albumin, gelatin, or immunoglobulins; hydrophilic polymers, such as polyvinylpyrrolidone; amino acids such as glycine, glutamine, asparagine, arginine or lysine; monosaccharides, disaccharides, and other carbohydrates, including glucose, mannose, or dextrans; chelating agents, such as EDTA; sugar alcohols, such as mannitol or sorbitol; salt-forming counterions, such as sodium; and/or nonionic surfactants, such as TWEEN® (ICI, Inc.; Bridgewater, N.J.), polyethylene glycol (PEG), and PLURONICS™ (BASF; Florham Park, N.J.).

Compositions containing the compound described herein or derivatives thereof suitable for parenteral injection may comprise physiologically acceptable sterile aqueous or non-aqueous solutions, dispersions, suspensions or emulsions, and sterile powders for reconstitution into sterile injectable solutions or dispersions. Examples of suitable aqueous and nonaqueous carriers, diluents, solvents or vehicles include water, ethanol, polyols (propyleneglycol, polyethyleneglycol, glycerol, and the like), suitable mixtures thereof, vegetable oils (such as olive oil) and injectable organic esters such as ethyl oleate. Proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersions and by the use of surfactants.

These compositions may also contain adjuvants, such as preserving, wetting, emulsifying, and dispensing agents. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be promoted by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, for example, parabens, chlorobutanol, phenol, sorbic acid, and the like. Isotonic agents, for example, sugars, sodium chloride, and the like may also be included. Prolonged absorption of the injectable pharmaceutical form can be brought about by the use of agents delaying absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.

Solid dosage forms for oral administration of the compounds described herein or derivatives thereof include capsules, tablets, pills, powders, and granules. In such solid dosage forms, the compounds described herein or derivatives thereof is admixed with at least one inert customary excipient (or carrier), such as sodium citrate or dicalcium phosphate, or (a) fillers or extenders, as for example, starches, lactose, sucrose, glucose, mannitol, and silicic acid, (b) binders, as for example, carboxymethylcellulose, alginates, gelatin, polyvinylpyrrolidone, sucrose, and acacia, (c) humectants, as for example, glycerol, (d) disintegrating agents, as for example, agar-agar, calcium carbonate, potato or tapioca starch, alginic acid, certain complex silicates, and sodium carbonate, (e) solution retarders, as for example, paraffin, (f) absorption accelerators, as for example, quaternary ammonium compounds, (g) wetting agents, as for example, cetyl alcohol, and glycerol monostearate, (h) adsorbents, as for example, kaolin and bentonite, and (i) lubricants, as for example, talc, calcium stearate, magnesium stearate, solid polyethylene glycols, sodium lauryl sulfate, or mixtures thereof. In the case of capsules, tablets, and pills, the dosage forms may also comprise buffering agents.

Solid compositions of a similar type may also be employed as fillers in soft and hard-filled gelatin capsules using such excipients as lactose or milk sugar as well as high molecular weight polyethyleneglycols, and the like.

Solid dosage forms such as tablets, dragees, capsules, pills, and granules can be prepared with coatings and shells, such as enteric coatings and others known in the art. They may contain opacifying agents and can also be of such composition that they release the active compound or compounds in a certain part of the intestinal tract in a delayed manner.

Examples of embedding compositions that can be used are polymeric substances and waxes. The active compounds can also be in micro-encapsulated form, if appropriate, with one or more of the above-mentioned excipients.

Liquid dosage forms for oral administration of the compounds described herein or derivatives thereof include pharmaceutically acceptable emulsions, solutions, suspensions, syrups, and elixirs. In addition to the active compounds, the liquid dosage forms may contain inert diluents commonly used in the art, such as water or other solvents, solubilizing agents, and emulsifiers, as for example, ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, ethyl carbonate, ethyl acetate, benzyl alcohol, benzyl benzoate, propyleneglycol, 1,3-butyleneglycol, dimethylformamide, oils, in particular, cottonseed oil, groundnut oil, corn germ oil, olive oil, castor oil, sesame oil, glycerol, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol, polyethyleneglycols, and fatty acid esters of sorbitan, or mixtures of these substances, and the like.

Besides such inert diluents, the composition can also include additional agents, such as wetting, emulsifying, suspending, sweetening, flavoring, or perfuming agents.

Suspensions, in addition to the active compounds, may contain additional agents, as for example, ethoxylated isostearyl alcohols, polyoxyethylene sorbitol and sorbitan esters, microcrystalline cellulose, aluminum metahydroxide, bentonite, agar-agar and tragacanth, or mixtures of these substances, and the like.

Compositions of the compounds described herein or derivatives thereof for rectal administrations are optionally suppositories, which can be prepared by mixing the compounds with suitable non-irritating excipients or carriers, such as cocoa butter, polyethyleneglycol or a suppository wax, which are solid at ordinary temperatures but liquid at body temperature and, therefore, melt in the rectum or vaginal cavity and release the active component.

Dosage forms for topical administration of the compounds described herein or derivatives thereof include ointments, powders, sprays, and inhalants. The compounds described herein or derivatives thereof are admixed under sterile conditions with a physiologically acceptable carrier and any preservatives, buffers, or propellants as may be required. Ophthalmic formulations, ointments, powders, and solutions are also contemplated as being within the scope of the compositions.

The compositions can include one or more of the compounds described herein and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. As used herein, the term pharmaceutically acceptable salt refers to those salts of the compound described herein or derivatives thereof that are, within the scope of sound medical judgment, suitable for use in contact with the tissues of subjects without undue toxicity, irritation, allergic response, and the like, commensurate with a reasonable benefit/risk ratio, and effective for their intended use, as well as the zwitterionic forms, where possible, of the compounds described herein. The term salts refers to the relatively non-toxic, inorganic and organic acid addition salts of the compounds described herein. These salts can be prepared in situ during the isolation and purification of the compounds or by separately reacting the purified compound in its free base form with a suitable organic or inorganic acid and isolating the salt thus formed. Representative salts include the hydrobromide, hydrochloride, sulfate, bisulfate, nitrate, acetate, oxalate, valerate, oleate, palmitate, stearate, laurate, borate, benzoate, lactate, phosphate, tosylate, citrate, maleate, fumarate, succinate, tartrate, naphthylate mesylate, glucoheptonate, lactobionate, methane sulphonate, and laurylsulphonate salts, and the like.

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These may include cations based on the alkali and alkaline earth metals, such as sodium, lithium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, and the like, as well as non-toxic ammonium, quaternary ammonium, and amine cations including, but not limited to ammonium, tetramethylammonium, tetraethylammonium, methylamine, dimethylamine, trimethylamine, triethylamine, ethylamine, and the like. (See S. M. Barge et al., *J. Pharm. Sci.* (1977) 66, 1, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, at least, for compositions taught therein.)

Administration of the compounds and compositions described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof can be carried out using therapeutically effective amounts of the compounds and compositions described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof as described herein for periods of time effective to treat a disorder. The effective amount of the compounds and compositions described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof as described herein may be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art and includes exemplary dosage amounts for a mammal of from about 0.5 to about 200 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, which may be administered in a single dose or in the form of individual divided doses, such as from 1 to 4 times per day. Alternatively, the dosage amount can be from about 0.5 to about 150 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 0.5 to 100 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 0.5 to about 75 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 0.5 to about 50 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 0.5 to about 25 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 1 to about 20 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 1 to about 10 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 20 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, about 10 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day, or about 5 mg/kg of body weight of active compound per day. Those of skill in the art will understand that the specific dose level and frequency of dosage for any particular subject may be varied and will depend upon a variety of factors, including the activity of the specific compound employed, the metabolic stability and length of action of that compound, the species, age, body weight, general health, sex and diet of the subject, the mode and time of administration, rate of excretion, drug combination, and severity of the particular condition.

III. Methods of Making the Compounds

The compounds described herein can be prepared in a variety of ways known to one skilled in the art of organic synthesis or variations thereon as appreciated by those skilled in the art. The compounds described herein can be prepared from readily available starting materials. Optimum reaction conditions may vary with the particular reactants or solvents used, but such conditions can be determined by one skilled in the art.

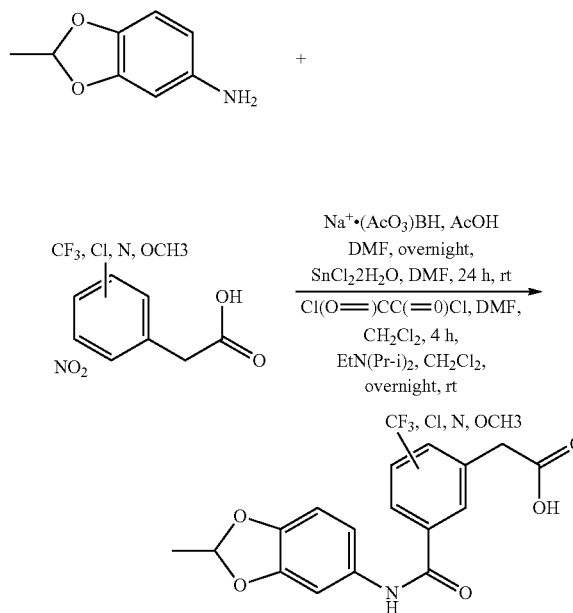
Variations on Formula I, Formula II, Formula III, Formula IV, Formula V, and Formula VI include the addition, subtraction, or movement of the various constituents as described for each compound. Similarly, when one or more chiral centers are present in a molecule, the chirality of the molecule can be changed. Additionally, compound synthesis can involve the protection and deprotection of various chemical groups. The use of protection and deprotection, and the selection of appropriate protecting groups can be determined by one skilled in the art. The chemistry of protecting groups can be found, for example, in Wuts and Greene, *Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*, 4th Ed., Wiley & Sons, 2006, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

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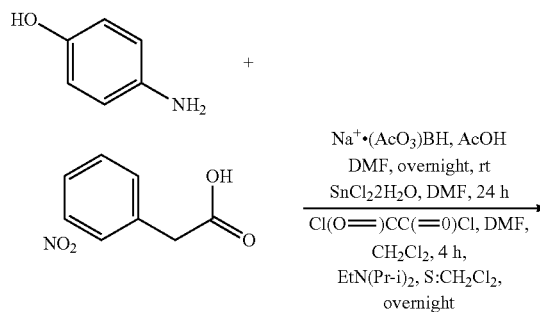
Reactions to produce the compounds described herein can be carried out in solvents, which can be selected by one of skill in the art of organic synthesis. Solvents can be substantially nonreactive with the starting materials (reactants), the intermediates, or products under the conditions at which the reactions are carried out, i.e., temperature and pressure. Reactions can be carried out in one solvent or a mixture of more than one solvent. Product or intermediate formation can be monitored according to any suitable method known in the art. For example, product formation can be monitored by spectroscopic means, such as nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (e.g., ^1H or ^{13}C) infrared spectroscopy, spectrophotometry (e.g., UV-visible), or mass spectrometry, or by chromatography such as high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) or thin layer chromatography.

The compounds described by Formula I can be made, for example, according to the methods described in El-Araby et al., *Journal of Computational Chemistry*, 6(5):789-795 (2004) and International Patent Application No. WO 2005/080367. Exemplary synthetic methods are shown in Schemes 1-6:

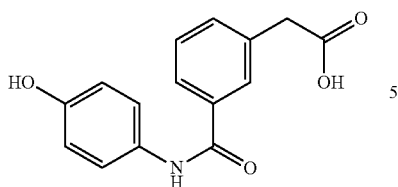
Scheme 1: Synthesis of Compound Sd-4-1



Scheme 2: Synthesis of Compound Sd-4-2



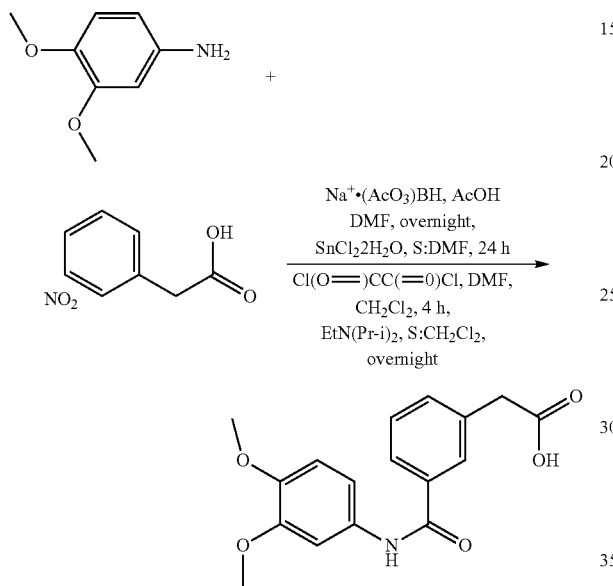
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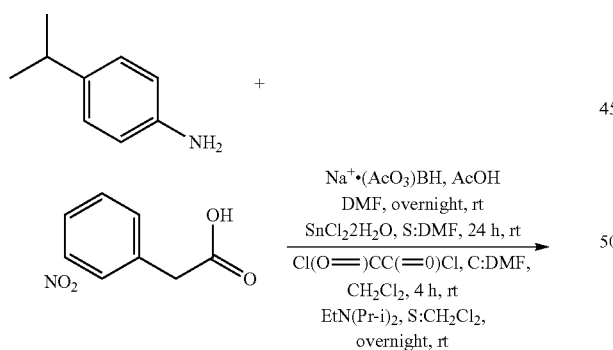
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Scheme 3: Synthesis of Compound Sd-4-3



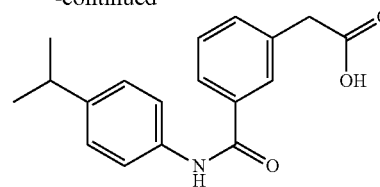
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Scheme 4: Synthesis of Compound Sd-4-4

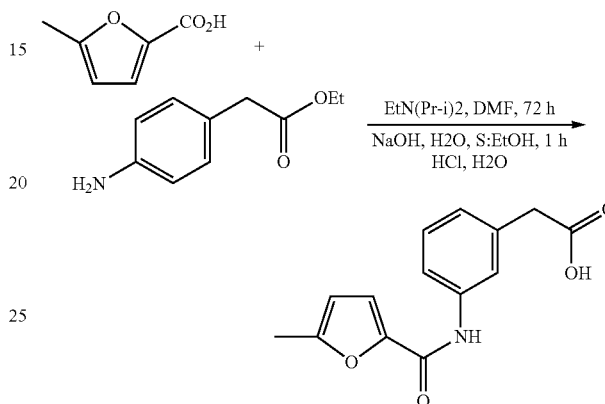


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Scheme 5: Synthesis of Compound Sd-4-5

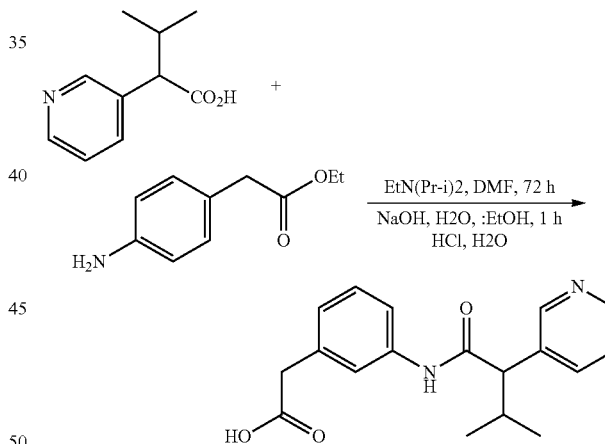


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Scheme 6: Synthesis of Compound Sd-4-6



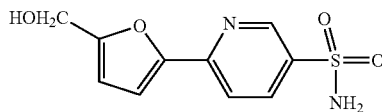
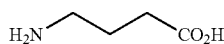
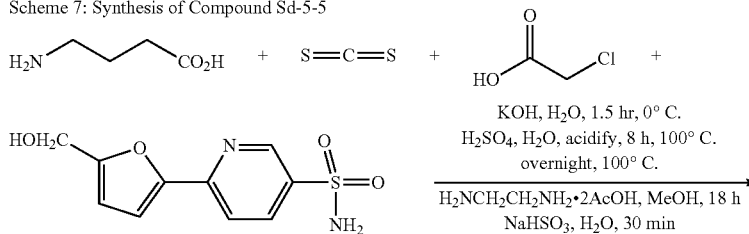
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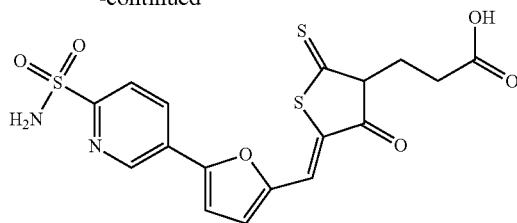
The compounds described by Formula III can be made, for example, according to the methods described in International Patent Application No. WO 2008/005651. An exemplary synthetic method is shown in Scheme 7:

Scheme 7: Synthesis of Compound Sd-5-5



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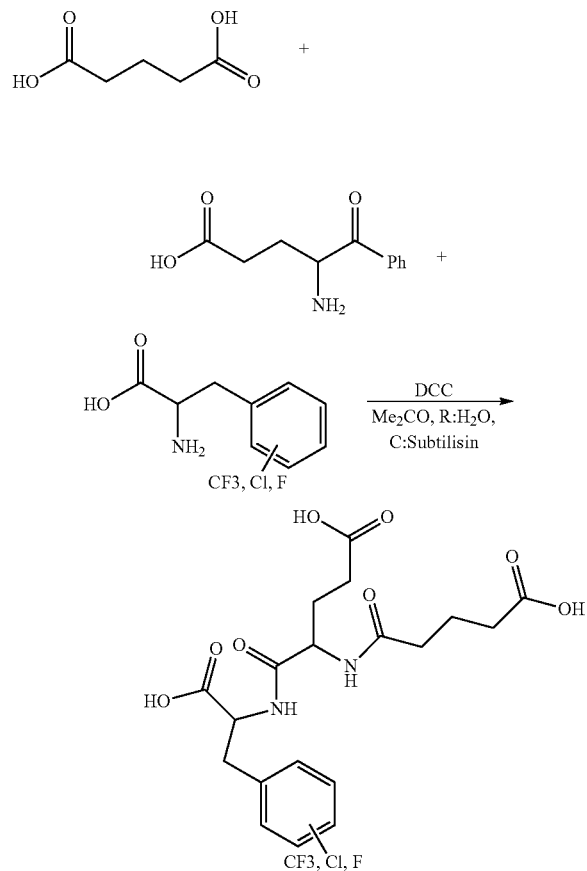
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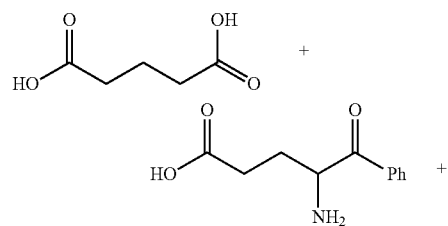
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The compounds described by Formula IV can be made, for example, according to the methods described in Chen et al., *Journal of Chemical Research, Synopses*, 9:308-309 (1987). Exemplary synthetic methods are shown in Schemes 8-10:

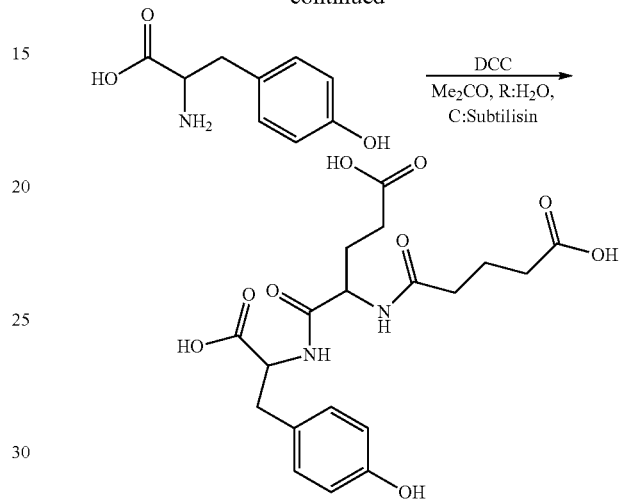
Scheme 8: Synthesis of Compound Sd-6-1



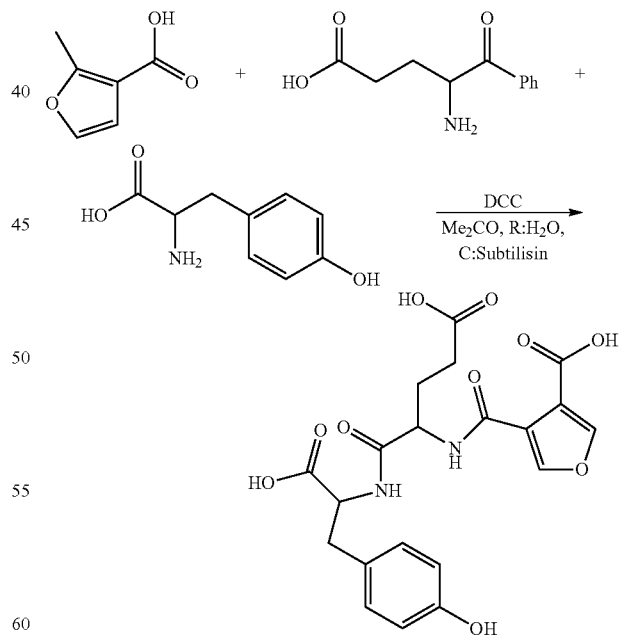
Scheme 9: Synthesis of Compound Sd-6-2



-continued



Scheme 10: Synthesis of Compound Sd-6-3



IV. Methods of Use

Provided herein are methods to treat, prevent, or ameliorate cancer and neurologic disorders in a subject. The methods include administering to a subject an effective amount of one or more of the compounds or compositions described herein,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof. The expression "effective amount," when used to describe an amount of compound in a method, refers to the amount of a compound that achieves the desired pharmacological effect or other effect, for example, an amount that results in tumor growth rate reduction. The compounds and compositions described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof are useful for treating cancer and neurologic disorders in humans, including, without limitation, pediatric and geriatric populations, and in animals, e.g., veterinary applications.

The method of treating or preventing cancer and neurologic disorders in a subject can further comprise administering to the subject a therapeutic agent or radiation therapy or a combination thereof. Thus, the provided compositions and methods can include one or more additional agents. The one or more additional agents and the compounds described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof can be administered in any order, including concomitant, simultaneous, or sequential administration. Sequential administration can be temporally spaced order of up to several days apart. The methods can also include more than a single administration of the one or more additional agents and/or the compounds described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof. The administration of the one or more additional agents and the compounds described herein or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof can be by the same or different routes and concurrently or sequentially.

Therapeutic agents include, but are not limited to, chemotherapeutic agents, anti-depressants, anxiolytics, antibodies, antivirals, steroidal and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, conventional immunotherapeutic agents, cytokines, chemokines, and/or growth factors.

The therapeutic agent can, for example, be a chemotherapeutic agent. A chemotherapeutic agent is a compound or composition effective in inhibiting or arresting the growth of an abnormally growing cell. Thus, such an agent may be used therapeutically to treat cancer as well as other diseases marked by abnormal cell growth. Illustrative examples of chemotherapeutic compounds include, but are not limited to, bexarotene, gefitinib, erlotinib, gemcitabine, paclitaxel, docetaxel, topotecan, irinotecan, temozolomide, carmustine, vinorelbine, capecitabine, leucovorin, oxaliplatin, bevacizumab, cetuximab, panitumumab, bortezomib, oblimersen, hexamethylmelamine, ifosfamide, CPT-11, deflunomide, cycloheximide, dicarbazine, asparaginase, mitotant, vinblastine sulfate, carboplatin, colchicine, etoposide, melphalan, 6-mercaptopurine, teniposide, vinblastine, antibiotic derivatives (e.g. anthracyclines such as doxorubicin, liposomal doxorubicin, and diethylstilbestrol doxorubicin, bleomycin, daunorubicin, and dactinomycin); antiestrogens (e.g., tamoxifen); antimetabolites (e.g., fluorouracil (FU), 5-FU, methotrexate, floxuridine, interferon alpha-2B, glutamic acid, plicamycin, mercaptopurine, and 6-thioguanine); cytotoxic agents (e.g., carmustine, BCNU, lomustine, CCNU, cytosine arabinoside, cyclophosphamide, estramustine, hydroxyurea, procarbazine, mitomycin, busulfan, cisplatin, vincristine and vincristine sulfate); hormones (e.g., medroxyprogesterone, estramustine phosphate sodium, ethinyl estradiol, estradiol, megestrol acetate, methyltestosterone, diethylstilbestrol diphosphate, chlorotrianisene, and testolactone); nitrogen mustard derivatives (e.g., mephallen, chlorambucil, mechlorethamine (nitrogen mustard) and thiotepe); and steroids (e.g., bethamethasone sodium phosphate).

Optionally, the therapeutic agent can be an anti-depressant. Illustrative examples of anti-depressant compounds include, but are not limited to, adatanserin hydrochloride; adinazolam;

adinazolam mesylate; alaproclate; aletamine hydrochloride; amedalin hydrochloride; amitriptyline hydrochloride; amoxapine; aptazapine maleate; azaloxan fumarate; azepindole; azipramine hydrochloride; bipenamol hydrochloride; bupropion hydrochloride; butacetin; butriptyline hydrochloride; caroxazone; cartazolate; ciclazindol; cidoxepin hydrochloride; cilobamine mesylate; clodazon hydrochloride; clomipramine hydrochloride; cotinine fumarate; cyclindole; cypenamine hydrochloride; cyprolidol hydrochloride; cyproximide; daledalin tosylate; dapoxetine hydrochloride; dazadrol maleate; dazepinil hydrochloride; desipramine hydrochloride; dexamisole; deximafen; dibenzepin hydrochloride; dioxadrol hydrochloride; dothiepin hydrochloride; doxepin hydrochloride; duloxetine hydrochloride; eclanamine maleate; encyprate; etoperidone hydrochloride; fantridone hydrochloride; fehmetozole hydrochloride; fenmetramide; fezolamine fumarate; fluotracen hydrochloride; fluoxetine; fluoxetine hydrochloride; fluparoxan hydrochloride; gamfexine; guanoxifen sulfate; imafen hydrochloride; imiloxan hydrochloride; imipramine hydrochloride; indeloxazine hydrochloride; intriptyline hydrochloride; iprindole; isocarboxazid; ketipramine fumarate; lofepramine hydrochloride; lortalamine; maprotiline; maprotiline hydrochloride; melitracen hydrochloride; milacemide hydrochloride; minaprine hydrochloride; mirtazapine; moclobemide; modaline sulfate; napactadine hydrochloride; napamezole hydrochloride; nefazodone hydrochloride; nisooxetine; nitrafudam hydrochloride; nomifensine maleate; nortriptyline hydrochloride; octriptyline phosphate; opipramol hydrochloride; oxaprotiline hydrochloride; oxypertine; paroxetine; phenelzine sulfate; pirandamine hydrochloride; pizotiline; prdefine hydrochloride; prolintane hydrochloride; protriptyline hydrochloride; quipazine maleate; rolicyprine; soproxetine hydrochloride; sertraline hydrochloride; sibutramine hydrochloride; sulpiride; suritozole; tametraline hydrochloride; tampramine fumarate; tandamine hydrochloride; thiazesim hydrochloride; thozalinone; tomoxetine hydrochloride; trazodone hydrochloride; trebenzomine hydrochloride; trimipramine; trimipramine maleate; venlafaxine hydrochloride; viloxazine hydrochloride; zimeldine hydrochloride; and zometapine.

Further, the therapeutic agent can be an anxiolytic. Illustrative examples of anxiolytic compounds include, but are not limited to, alprazolam; chlordiazepoxide; clonazepam; diazepam; lorazepam; tofisopam; buspirone; tandospirone; gepirone; barbiturates; hydroxyzine; pregbalin; chlorpheniramine; and diphenhydramine.

Any of the aforementioned therapeutic agents can be used in any combination with the compositions described herein. Combinations are administered either concomitantly (e.g., as an admixture), separately but simultaneously (e.g., via separate intravenous lines into the same subject), or sequentially (e.g., one of the compounds or agents is given first followed by the second). Thus, the term combination is used to refer to concomitant, simultaneous, or sequential administration of two or more agents.

The methods and compounds as described herein are useful for both prophylactic and therapeutic treatment. For prophylactic use, a therapeutically effective amount of the compounds and compositions or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof as described herein are administered to a subject prior to onset (e.g., before obvious signs of cancer or a neurologic disorder), during early onset (e.g., upon initial signs and symptoms of cancer or a neurologic disorder), or after the development of cancer or a neurologic disorder. Prophylactic administration can occur for several days to years prior to the manifestation of symptoms of cancer or a neurologic disorder.

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der. Therapeutic treatment involves administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of the compounds and compositions or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof as described herein after cancer or a neurologic disorder is diagnosed.

V. Assays

The enzymatic activity of the compounds provided herein as inhibitors of AGBL2 may be measured in standard assays, e.g., HPLC assays. Compounds that are identified as AGBL2 inhibitors are useful in treating or preventing cancer and/or neurologic disorders. Further, the compounds can be tested as inhibitors of AGBL2 in a Fluorescence Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET) assay, as described in Example 3 below. The high throughput enzyme assays and inhibitor screenings described provide real-time monitoring of the digestion process. The activities of the compounds as determined using the assays described herein can be reported in terms of IC_{50} . As used herein, IC_{50} refers to an amount, concentration, or dosage of a particular test compound that achieves a 50% inhibition of a maximal response in an assay that measures such response.

VI. Kits

Also provided herein are kits for treating or preventing cancer or a neurologic disorder in a subject. A kit can include any of the compounds or compositions described herein. For example, a kit can include a compound of Formula I, Formula II, Formula III, Formula IV, Formula V, Formula VI, or combinations thereof. A kit can further include one or more additional agents, such as a chemotherapeutic agent (e.g., gemcitabine, paclitaxel, or tamoxifen), an anti-depressant (e.g., amitriptyline, duloxetine, or sertraline), and/or an anxiolytic (e.g., benzodiazepines, azapirones, or diphenhydramine). A kit can include an oral formulation of any of the compounds or compositions described herein. A kit can additionally include directions for use of the kit (e.g., instructions for treating a subject), a container, a means for administering the compounds or compositions, and/or a carrier.

As used herein the terms treatment, treat, or treating refer to a method of reducing one or more symptoms of a disease or condition. Thus in the disclosed method, treatment can refer to a 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, or 100% reduction in the severity of one or more symptoms of the disease or condition. For example, a method for treating a disease is considered to be a treatment if there is a 10% reduction in one or more symptoms or signs (e.g., size of the tumor or rate of tumor growth) of the disease in a subject as compared to a control. As used herein, control refers to the untreated condition (e.g., the tumor cells not treated with the compounds and compositions described herein). Thus the reduction can be a 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, or any percent reduction in between 10% and 100% as compared to native or control levels. It is understood that treatment does not necessarily refer to a cure or complete ablation of the disease, condition, or symptoms of the disease or condition.

As used herein, the terms prevent, preventing, and prevention of a disease or disorder refer to an action, for example, administration of a composition or therapeutic agent, that occurs before or at about the same time a subject begins to show one or more symptoms of the disease or disorder, which inhibits or delays onset or severity of one or more symptoms of the disease or disorder.

As used herein, references to decreasing, reducing, or inhibiting include a change of 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90% or greater as compared to a control level. Such terms can include, but do not necessarily include, complete elimination.

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As used herein, subject means both mammals and non-mammals. Mammals include, for example, humans; non-human primates, e.g., apes and monkeys; cattle; horses; sheep; rats; mice; pigs; and goats. Non-mammals include, for example, fish and birds.

Throughout this application, various publications are referenced. The disclosures of these publications in their entireties are hereby incorporated by reference into this application.

The examples below are intended to further illustrate certain aspects of the methods and compositions described herein, and are not intended to limit the scope of the claims.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Recombinant AGBL2 and RARRES1 Quality Control

RARRES1 or AGBL2 have significant and reciprocal effects on anoikis, anchorage, and taxol sensitivity (see FIG. 1). A high throughput fluorometric assay, using recombinant AGBL2, RARRES1, and a hydroxycoumarin-conjugated substrate, was developed to test the activity of AGBL2 candidate inhibitors. The RARRES1 and AGBL2 for use in the assays were tested for purity and quality. Specifically, N-His AGBL2 and N-His RARRES1 recombinants were obtained from inclusion bodies. In addition to confirming the gene sequence of the bacterial expressing plasmids by gene sequencing, SDS-PAGE and Western blotting were used to assess the purity and quality of the recombinant proteins. FIG. 2 shows the Coomassie Blue stained SDS gels and the immunoblots after loading 2 μ g of recombinant AGBL2 (pI/MW: 9.36/105 kDa) and 1.5 μ g of recombinant RARRES1 (pI/MW: 7.71/31 kDa). SDS-PAGE was run on a 4-20% gradient gel. Purity is estimated at 75% for RARRES1 and 70% for AGBL2.

Example 2

Mass Spectrometry AGBL2 Enzyme Assay

Proteins were extracted from 10 million HELA cells using RIPA buffer in the absence of enzyme inhibitors. RIPA buffer was exchanged with a 50 mM TRIS, 10 mM $CaCl_2$ pH 8.0 using a centrifugal filter device with a molecular weight cut-off of 10 kDa. AGBL2 in vitro enzymatic activity was analyzed by adding 10 μ g of AGBL2 to the lysates. Lysates were separated on a 4-20% gradient SDS-PAGE gel, stained with Coomassie Blue. The band at 55 kDa representing α -tubulin was excised, destained, and digested with trypsin and proteinase K. Detyrosinated and tyrosinated C-terminal tail of α -tubulin were detected using nano liquid chromatography coupled with a quadrupole time of flight mass spectrometer (nano-LC-Q-TOF-MS). The detyrosinated to tyrosinated ratio (DTR) of tubulin increased from 1.20 (control) to 41.4 following AGBL2 overnight incubation (see FIGS. 3A and 3B).

Example 3

Tyrosination and Detyrosination of α -Tubulin

HEK 293 and HEK 293 stably expressing TIG1 (HEK293-TIG1) were grown in DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS. Cells (200 K) were seeded in 6-well plate dishes. The HEK293 media was changed 24 hrs post-seeding with a

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media containing one of Sd-1, Sd-2, Sd-3, or Sd-4 at a concentration of 1 microM. Cells were lysed after 2 hrs and Western blotting was performed against the tyrosinated and detyrosinated α -tubulin in the sample. The results are shown in FIG. 4. FIG. 4, row 1 represents the control (EV), row 2 represents overexpressed TIG1, row 3 represents EV and compound Sd-1, row 4 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-1, row 5 represents EV and compound Sd-2, row 6 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-2, row 7 represents EV and compound Sd-3, row 8 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-3, row 9 represents EV and compound Sd-4, and row 10 represents TIG1 and compound Sd-4.

Example 4

High Throughput Enzyme Kinetic Assay

Fluorescence Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET) principle can be applied to generate real-time enzymatic activity data. The tyrosinated C-terminal tail of tubulin has a tyrosine at the C-terminal. Tyrosines absorb at 270 nm and emit in the 280 to 350 nm range with a λ_{max} =303 nm. Adding a hydroxycoumarin that absorbs in the range of 300 to 350 nm to the N-terminal of the CTT of tubulin (see FIG. 5) allows the quenching of the tyrosine emission that can be monitored at 303 nm. Emissions at 303 nm can be detected after the cleavage of the tyrosine residue since the latter will follow a Brownian motion and become physical situated far from the quencher (Hydroxycoumarin). Assays can be performed at 25° C. in 10 mM CaCl₂, 0.2 M NaCl, and 0.05% Brij-35 in 50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, over a substrate concentration range of 1-5 mM and an enzyme concentration range of 0.1-50 nM. An exemplary assay was performed by incubating 186 μ L of buffer solution, 4 μ L of substrate solution, and then adding 10 μ L of AGBL2 solution. The mixture was then incubated for 15 to 120 minutes at 25° C.

The reaction rate can be analyzed using different substrate concentrations and the saturation curve can be drawn. The maximum reaction rate (V_{max}) and the substrate concentration at half the V_{max} referred to as the Michaelis-Menten constant (K_M) can be determined from the saturation curve. Inhibitors can also be analyzed and a saturation curve in the presence of inhibitor can be drawn. Compound Sd-4 (1 nM, 5 nM, and 10 nM) was analyzed according to this method, as shown in FIG. 6. The reaction rate was analyzed using substrate concentrations over a range of 0 to 3 μ M. The Michaelis-Menten constant in the presence of inhibitor referred to as $K_{M, Observed}$ can be similarly obtained from the saturation curve. The dissociation constant of the inhibitor (K_i) can be calculated using the following equation: $K_i = [\text{Inhibitor}] / ((K_{M, obs} / K_M) - 1.0)$.

Example 5

Enzyme Inhibition Kinetic Assays

Kinetic assays of the inhibition of AGBL2 were carried out using the substrate described in Example 4 to measure inhibition constants. Enzymatic assays were performed at 25° C. in 50 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.5 in the presence of 10 mM CaCl₂, 0.2 M NaCl, and 0.01% or 0.05% Brij-35 with substrate concentrations of 1 μ M. The release of tyrosine was monitored by measuring fluorescence (excitation and emission wavelengths of 270 nm and 303 nm, respectively). The

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compounds tested as inhibitors included compound Sd-1, compound Sd-2, compound Sd-3, and compound Sd-4. All stock solutions of inhibitors were in methanol. For inhibition assays, 10 μ L of inhibitor stock solution, 176 μ L of assay buffer, and 10 μ L of enzyme stock solution were mixed and incubated for 30 to 60 minutes prior to initiation of the assay, which was accomplished by adding and mixing 4 μ L of substrate stock solution. Enzyme concentrations ranged from 0.2 to 7 nM during the assay. Apparent inhibition constant (K_i^{app}) values were calculated by fitting the kinetics data to the Morrison equation for tight-binding inhibitors, where v_i and v_o are the initial rates with and without inhibitor, respectively, and $[E]_o$ and $[I]_o$ are the initial (total) enzyme and inhibitor concentrations, respectively. The K_i values of the four tested compounds and of recombinant RARRES1, all including 1 nM of recombinant AGBL2) are shown in Table 1.

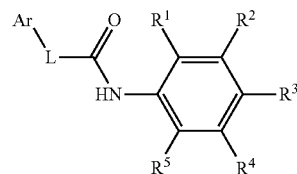
TABLE 1

Inhibitor	Ki (nM)
Sd-1	173
Sd-2	87
Sd-3	428
Sd-4	4.89
RARRES1	27

The compounds and methods of the appended claims are not limited in scope by the specific compounds and methods described herein, which are intended as illustrations of a few aspects of the claims and any compounds and methods that are functionally equivalent are within the scope of this disclosure. Various modifications of the compounds and methods in addition to those shown and described herein are intended to fall within the scope of the appended claims. Further, while only certain representative compounds, methods, and aspects of these compounds and methods are specifically described, other compounds and methods and combinations of various features of the compounds and methods are intended to fall within the scope of the appended claims, even if not specifically recited. Thus, a combination of steps, elements, components, or constituents may be explicitly mentioned herein; however, all other combinations of steps, elements, components, and constituents are included, even though not explicitly stated.

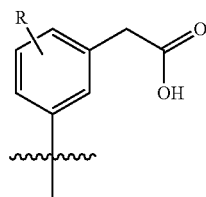
What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating cancer in a subject, comprising: administering to the subject an effective amount of one or more compounds of the following structure:



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:
Ar is



wherein R is trifluoromethyl, chloro, fluoro, methoxy, amino, or nitro;

L is absent;

R¹, R⁴, and R⁵ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, and substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl; and

R² and R³ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy, substituted or unsubstituted carbonyl, or substituted or unsubstituted carboxyl, or R² and R³ combine to form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl,

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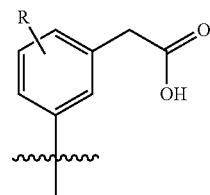
or a composition comprising the compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering a second therapeutic agent to the subject.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the second therapeutic agent is a chemotherapeutic agent.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein R² and R³ combine to form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein Ar is



wherein R is trifluoromethyl, chloro, fluoro, methoxy, amino, or nitro.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is

